

The Bloomsburg Town Council held their regular meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Town Hall and via teleconference. The public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8656 U.S. and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. The public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>.

Mayor Justin Hummel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., present were Council members Toni Bell, James Garman, Bonnie Crawford, Jaclyn Kressler, Nick McGaw and Jessica Jordan. Town Manager/ Secretary/ Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Town Solicitor Matt Turowski, Chief of Police Scott Price, Public Works Director John Fritz, Director of Finance Jack Breech, Director of Governmental Services Charles Fritz, Director of Code Enforcement Mike Reffeor, Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman, Fire Chief Scott McBride and Administrative Assistant Christine Meeker (Zoom). Also present were MJ Mahon, Andrew Barton, Ross McGargill, Jill Haas, William Stewart, Vince DeMelfi (Zoom), David Hill (Zoom), Steve Coladonato (Zoom), DAL (Zoom), Dave Stabley, Matt Zoppetti, Mike Wallace (Zoom), Kat Holdren (Zoom), Bill Eschenfelder (Zoom) Pamela Sriharsha, Emily Corbin, Gail Decker. Marie Decker, Rose McCracken, Rose Decker, Wayne Stump (7:14 p.m.) and two public citizens.

David Stabley was present to request assistance in finding a venue to hold a New Years Eve burn and to ask for help to cover the liability insurance cost. Mr. Stabley mentioned Streater Field as a possible site. He stated that he raised \$500 for the fire department last year. Scott McBride stated that although the fire department appreciated the donation, the burn was not a fire company sponsored event. Council suggested Mr. Stabley contact the local businesses for donations.

Pam Sriharsha came before Council regarding the traffic safety problems on 5th and Market Streets and asked if stop signs could be placed at the intersections to slow traffic down.

Emily Corbin presented a Powerpoint presentation for the YMCA Resource Hub. Ms. Corbin outlined the many areas in which help and assistance is available through this new program.

Gail Decker was present to ask that Council reconsider the proposed placement of the Market Street bike path. Ms. Decker requested the path be constructed on the inside of the parking spaces against the curb where the experimental bike path currently is.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE JULY 15, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from the July 15, 2024 Council meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE JULY 22, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from the July 22, 2024 special Council meeting.

RESOLUTION 08.12.2024.01 EMPLOYEE RECORD DISPOSITION LIST (TOTAL: 16, YTD 143).

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution 08.12.2024.01 Employee Record Disposition list.

RESOLUTION 08.12.2024.02 DESIGNATED FOOD TRUCK AREAS.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution 08.12.2024.02 Designated Food Truck areas.

RESOLUTION 08.12.2024.03- ELIMINATING STREET VENDOR MAP.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution 08.12.2024.03 Elimination Street Vendor map.

APPROVAL OF THE BLOOMSBURG'S FAIR REQUEST. NOTE: LEGAL IS ADVISING NOT TO APPROVE.

Bloomsburg Fair withdrew this request therefore no action was needed.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE JULY LIST OF BILLS.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$219,445.20, Recycling Fund \$34,590.92, Street Lighting Fund \$1,931.27, Fire Fund \$7,272.96, Pool Fund \$35,617.78, Liquid Fuels Fund \$971.18, Home Fund \$53,490.00 and the July Payroll Authorization \$272,784.47.

APPROVAL OF PAYING KENNETH ROBERTS AND RALPH MAGILL \$25 PER HOUR FOR BEING A POTENTIAL WITNESS FOR THE FAIR LITIGATION. NOTE: LEGAL CONFIRMED ON 7/30/2024.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6 to 1 (J. Hummel voting no), Council approved paying Kenneth Roberts and Ralph Magill \$25 per hour for being a potential witness for the Bloomsburg Fair litigation.

APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR CODE OF ETHICS.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the prior code of ethics.

APPROVAL OF HIRING A PART-TIME EMPLOYEE IN THE PARKING DEPARTMENT AT THE RATE OF \$15 PER HOUR.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to hire a part-time employee in the parking department at a rate of \$15 per hour. This hire will allow greater flexibility in scheduling.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE HAVING THE FEE WAIVED FOR A LIFEGUARD POOL PARTY AT THE NORRIS E. ROCK MEMORIAL POOL ON 8/19/2024.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved having the fee waived for a lifeguard pool party at the Norris E. Rock Memorial pool on August 19, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ALLOWING A PAID PARTY TO BOOK ON 8/19/2024 (PUBLIC SWIM IS CLOSED).

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved allowing a paid party to book on August 19, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN INTERN IN THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR FOR THE FALL OF 2024 SEMESTER.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved an intern in the office of the Mayor for the fall of 2024 semester.

UPDATE ON THE POLLINATOR FIELDS.

J. Fritz gave an update on the pollinator fields near the airport. Some of the flowers have taken hold and bloomed, a second spraying will be conducted for the weeds.

APPROVAL FOR THE 2025 POOL COORDINATOR TO HAVE A PESTICIDE LICENSE. NOTE: JOHN FRITZ IS REQUESTING THIS.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2025 pool coordinator to have a pesticide license to help operate the pool more efficiently.

APPROVAL OF PLACING THE ENCLOSED SIGNS ON THE B.A.R.T.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved placing mileage signage along the B.A.R.T.

APPROVAL OF ENTERING INTO A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER FOR \$7,000 WITH LIVIC CIVIL.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a professional engineering agreement in the amount of \$7,000 with LIVIC Civil for the Bloomsburg Recycling Center.

RECOMMENDATION TO PAVE MARKET STREET AND ALIGN THE PARKING SPACES FOR CARS ALONGSIDE THE CURB, A BIKE LANE PARALLEL TO THE PARKING SPACE, AND RIGHT BY THE PARKED CARS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS OF TRAFFIC FROM THE INTERSECTIONS OF 7TH STREET TO FT. MCCLURE BLVD. NOTE: A QUOTE FROM THE ENGINEER WAS RECEIVED FOR PRELIMINARY DESIGN FOR \$11,350 AS SHOWN IN LETTER F. CONSTRUCTION IS ESTIMATED AT \$599,930 (ALONG MARKET STREET FROM FT. MCCLURE BOULEVARD TO MAIN STREET).

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 2 to 5 (McGaw and Garman voting yes, Hummel, Crawford, Bell, Kressler and Jordan voting no), Council denied the motion to pave Market Street and align the parking spaces for cars alongside the curb, a bike lane parallel to the parking space, and right by the parked cars in both directions of traffic from the intersections of 7th Street to Ft. McClure Blvd.

RECOMMENDATION TO PAVE MARKET STREET AND EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF ALIGNING THE PARKING SPACES FOR CARS ALONGSIDE THE CURB, A BIKE LANE PARALLEL TO THE PARKING SPACE, AND RIGHT BY THE PARKED CARS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS OF TRAFFIC FROM THE INTERSECTIONS OF MAIN STREET TO FT. MCCLURE BLVD. NOTE: A QUOTE FROM THE ENGINEER WAS RECEIVED FOR PRELIMINARY DESIGN FOR \$11,350 AS SHOWN IN LETTER F. CONSTRUCTION IS ESTIMATED AT \$599,930.

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on 5-2 (McGaw and Garman voting no), Council approved the motion to pave Market Street and explore the possibilities of aligning the parking spaces for cars alongside the curb in the amount of \$11,350 to be payable to LIVIC Civil.

APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER AGREEMENT WITH LIVIC CIVIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,350 FOR THE MARKET STREET BIKE PATH PROPOSAL. NOTE: THIS INCLUDES 7TH STREET TO MAIN STREET. THE AGREEMENT WOULD NEED TO BE AMENDED IF COUNCIL APPROVES LETTER E.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on 5 to 2 (Hummel, Crawford, Bell, Kressler and Jordan voting yes and McGaw and Garman voting no), Council approved a professional engineering agreement with LIVIC Civil in the amount of \$11,350 for the Market Street bike path proposal. These funds will come out of the general fund.

RECOMMENDATION TO HAVE AN INDEPENDENT FEE ESTIMATE COMPLETED FOR THE T-HANGAR PROJECT AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FROM THE MRB GROUP FOR \$3,300.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to have an independent fee estimate completed for the T-Hanger project at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport from the MRB group for \$3,300.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM BE EQUIPMENT, INC. FOR \$9,901.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from BE Equipment, Inc. for \$9,901.

RECOMMENDATION TO HAVE THE RECYCLING COORDINATOR PLAN AND CARRY OUT AN ELECTRONIC COLLECTION EVENT IN 2025.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to have the Recycling Coordinator plan and carry out an electronic event in 2025.

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD THE ELECTRICAL COMPONENT OF THE GATE CLOSURE FOR THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER TO HAYDEN POWER GROUP FOR \$8,400.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to award the electrical component of the gate closure for the Bloomsburg Recycling Center to Hayden Power Group for \$8,400.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO KUHARCHIK FOR PAY APPLICATIONS 4-6 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$187,123.05.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Kuharchik for pay application 4, 5 & 6 in the total amount of \$187,123.05.

APPROVAL TO AWARD THE ELEVATION BID TO D.B. CONSTRUCTION FOR THE 334 EAST 9TH STREET DWELLING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$298,000. THIS APPROVAL IS PENDING THE FINAL APPROVAL OF PETERS CONSULTANTS, INC. ENGINEER, AND SEDA-COG.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to award the elevation bid to D.B. Construction for 334 East 9th Street dwelling in the amount of \$298,000. Approval is pending the final approvals of Peters Consultants, Inc. and SEDA-COG.

APPROVAL OF ALLOWING THE 6 FEET SIDEWALK AREA AT GOOD OLD DAYS LOCATED AT 501 EAST STREET EXTENDED TO 10 FEET. REQUESTED BY MATTHEW ZOPPETTI.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved allowing the 6-foot sidewalk area at the former Good Old Days located at 501 East Street to be extended to a maximum of 10 feet to be used as an outdoor café area. The area includes the East Street frontage and the E. 5th Street side of the property. This approval is contingent upon zoning approval. In addition it was mentioned that the same serving hours as previously approved by Council still stands.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CLOSING RAILROAD STREET FOR THE FALL TRAIN RIDES IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved closing Railroad Street for the fall train rides in October and November.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SALES ORDER WITH PASSPORT LABS, INC. AND THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the sales order with Passport Labs, Inc. and the Town of Bloomsburg.

RECOMMENDATION TO PLACE SIX-COIN METERS IN THE PINE LOT. NOTE: A LOCATION NEEDS TO BE SPECIFIED IN THE MOTION AS TO WHERE IN THE PINE LOT.

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to place six coin-operated meters in the Pine Avenue parking lot, meters are to be installed in the final 6 parking spaces at the western side of the lot, beside Center Street.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAINTING A SPOT IN FRONT OF MILLER AVENUE ON MAIN STREET SINCE THE PRIVATE OWNERS DECIDED TO CURB THAT AREA. ALSO, A PENNDOT DRIVEWAY WAS NOT FILED.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved painting a spot in the front the Miller Avenue on Main Street since the private owners decided to curb that area.

RECOMMENDATION TO REFUND THE VENDOR FEES FOR THE 2024 PLANNED HOMECOMING FESTIVAL FOR OCTOBER 12, 2024, AND CANCEL THE EVENT.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to refund the vendor fees for the planned October 12, 2024 homecoming festival and cancel the event.

APPROVAL TO HAVE TRAFFIC REMAIN WEST BOUND ON FT. MCCLURE BLVD. DURING FAIR AND THE COVERED BRIDGE FESTIVAL.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to have traffic remain westbound on Ft. McClure Blvd. during Fair week and the Covered Bridge festival.

RECOMMENDATION TO KEEP PURSUING GRANT FUNDS THAT COLUMBIA COUNTY HOUSING IS OFFERING THE TOWN HOMEOWNER FOR BUYOUTS. A MOTION AT THE COMMITTEE WAS TO ALLOW STRUCTURES OUTSIDE OF THE CURRENT PROPOSED FLOODWALL AT THE WEST END AREA OF TOWN.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to keep pursuing grant funds that Columbia County Housing Authority is offering to town homeowners for buyouts. This will include structures outside of the current proposed floodwall at the west end of town.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to adjourn the meeting for a police personnel matter for an executive session at 9:20 p.m. Council reconvened the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council rescinded the employment offer to Brandon Gonzalez.

Council adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Lisa Dooley
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer